

VZCZCXRO6854
RR RUEHCD RUEHGD RUEHHO RUEHMC RUEHNG RUEHNL RUEHRD RUEHRS RUEHTM
DE RUEHME #6248 3060003
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 020003Z NOV 06
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 0196
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4020
INFO RUEHXC/ALL US CONSULATES IN MEXICO COLLECTIVE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS MEXICO 006248

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STATE FOR ISN/CB; THE HAGUE FOR CWC DEL

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [CBW](#) [CWC](#) [OPCW](#)
SUBJECT: CWC EXTENSION DEMARCHE DELIVERED

REF: STATE 179253

(SBU) Poloff delivered ref demarche to Secretariat of Foreign Relations (SRE) Deputy Director General for UN-Related Security and Legal Issues Julian Juarez Cardenas. Juarez said the GOM is concerned about requests from countries seeking extensions of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) deadline for completing the destruction of all chemical weapons stocks. While recognizing the expense and technical challenges involved, he commented that the GOM finds it difficult to understand why a destruction deadline that remains five years away cannot be met. He underscored the importance of disarmament and destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles to broader nonproliferation efforts. Juarez noted that the U.S. and other requests for extensions would be reviewed at the next meeting of the OPCW Executive Council, adding that rather than granting indefinite extensions, the GOM and others would like to see those nations requesting extensions offer specific timetables they will stick to. He reiterated that Mexico's position toward a U.S. request would be the same as toward others seeking extensions.

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GARZA